LASHBACK

serving the Past for the Future

Volume 46 February 1996 Number 1

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Washington County Historical Society
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Cover photo: From the Washington County Historical Society photo files: Fayetteville Belles (June 1887), front, left to right: Maude Reed, Lottie Short, Miss Hook; middle: Nan McGavock, Nettie Davis, Lina X. Reed; back: Annie Dell, Jessie Waterman.

FLASHBACK

Preserving the Past for the Future

Volume 46 **February 1996** **Number 1**

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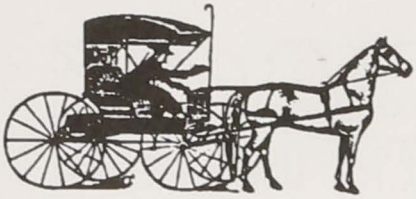
COPY to be printed in *Flashback* may be submitted in one of several ways: 1) furnished on computer disc, preferrably in WordPerfect for either Macintosh or a PC, 2) by e-mail to the editor at [dschaefe@comp.uark.edu] or [WCHS@aol.com], or 3) cleanly typed copy that can be optically scanned. Text copy, photos, and artwork are all assembled on a computer. We welcome letters or e-mail messages that tell us of planned articles or inquire about Society activities.

1996 DUES ARE DUE and will be necessary for future mailings of *Flashback*. Dues are now $15.00 per calendar year and should be sent with name, address, and telephone number to the Washington County Historical Society, 118 East Dickson, Fayetteville, AR 72701. Please indicate whether your membership is new or a renewal.



ARKANSAS COUNTRY DOCTOR MUSEUM

by Keith Newhouse

The townspeople of Lincoln, Arkansas, took great pride opening its unique Country Doctor Museum in the summer of 1994. This museum is one of only two in the nation devoted solely to preserving the memory of those whose profession gave so much to the area where they chose to serve. The doctor of a small town or community was invariably one of the most loved and respected, overworked, and underpaid of the professionals. The breed is fast disappearing, so this museum is a most fitting tribute.

Project Begun by Son of "Country Doctor"

The impetus for the project was furnished by Dr. Harold Boyer, who donated his parents' former home in Lincoln, along with a substantial amount of cash. Dr. Harold Boyer practices dermatology in Las Vegas, Nev. After his stepmother, Ruby Boyer, died in 1987, he bought up all the real estate interests of other heirs. With these acquisitions gained, Dr. Harold began to contact by phone, mail, and occasional visits, people in Washington County whom he thought might be interested in making his dream of a museum into a reality.

His enthusiasm paid off with an organizational meeting at Lincoln's Methodist Church whose property is adjacent to the house and clinic. At this initial conference, held on October 8, 1993, members of a steering committee invited by Dr. Boyer expressed their ideas. The project was underway. Early into 1994 articles of incorporation were drawn up and the group took steps

necessary to secure a non-profit status which allows tax-deductible contributions under current law.

A remarkable number of volunteers labored through the first nine months of '94 making the building and its grounds presentable for the 1994 Apple Festival held the first weekend of October at Lincoln.

Because the buildings, home, and clinic had stood vacant for seven years, they needed repair from severe termite and water damage. Also, family accumulations had to be gone through, dust and debris scraped up, walls painted, curtains replaced; hundreds of household chores that had been neglected required attention. For instance, Mrs. Ruby Boyer was a collector of salt and pepper shakers, souvenirs from national parks, foreign cities, sentimental objects, etc. numbering in the hundreds. These were all washed, dusted, and returned to the original cabinets built to house the fabulous collection. All the linen in the various hospital rooms had to be washed, ironed, or replaced. The dusting and cleaning jobs in the examination rooms were formidable. The volunteers did a fabulous job throughout. The buildings' electrical systems had to be reviewed, brought up to

The Arkansas Country Museum in Lincoln, Ark.

code, with outlets added for exhibition purposes. Display cases had to be built and the director's office furnished.

The buildings have undergone extensive renovation, a central heat and air conditioning system added, but more work is planned. There is a future herb garden planned for the backyard. A two-story garage has been readied to receive a "doctor's buggy" recently acquired.

Buggy Donated by Gus Boatright

Speaking of this buggy, it was bought on June 29, 1995 from Gus Boatright who lives near Huntsville. Gus found this relic, an 1886 Studebaker, in Walnut Grove, Mo., in April 1963. His ownership lasted more than 32 years, so he and his wife had to overcome a sentimental reluctance to sell to the museum. But their decision allows more people to enjoy this beautifully preserved real "doctor's buggy." Originally owned by Dr. J. K. Perry (1848-1921) who practiced in the Walnut Grove, Mo., area during the late 1800s and early 1900s, it is a spectacular acquisition! Thanks, Mr. and Mrs. Boatright.

Rosalie Cox with doctor's buggy from the early 1900s.

Among the most recent gifts were several from an anonymous giver. The thing of most interest was a traveling kit carrying a dozen bottles labeled for the pills and medicinal powders they held. This was accompanied by a fine mortar with a ceramic pestle, a smaller mortar

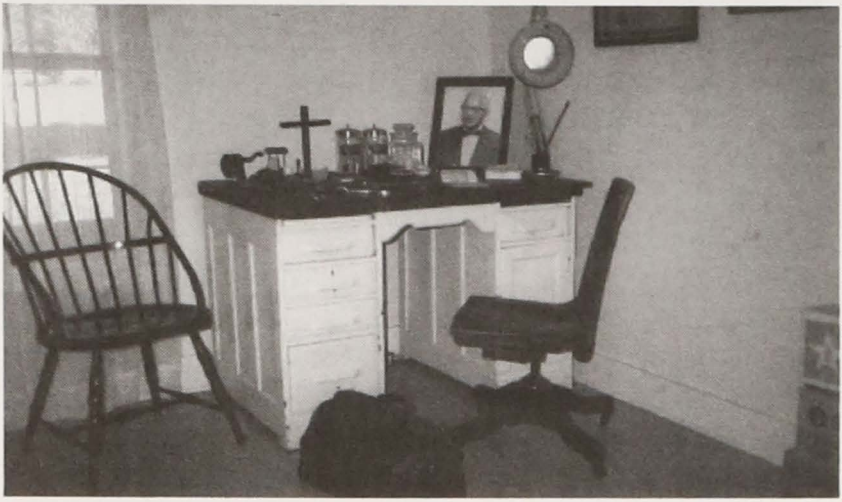
along with several instruments. The entire group was identified as the property of a Dr. Frank L. Lewis of Fayetteville. Search by local authorities has not revealed any such practitioner in Washington County, Ark. There are about five Fayettevilles in the U.S. We may find out some day in which one Dr. Lewis practiced and when–circa 1900s and up to 1930, perhaps.

The Lincoln Clinic began in 1926 when Dr. Lacy Bean built a four-room building where he practiced medicine while his home was on adjacent property. These four rooms are contained in the present complex as the living room, museum office, kitchen, and the doctor's bedroom.

Three Doctors Have Used Clinic

Dates for other expansions are not known, but photographs from 1946 show the work was completed by then. Records indicate that three doctors practiced here. First was Dr. Bean from 1926 to 1944; next, for only a short stay, was Dr. Berganstal from 1944 to 1946; and for the longest service came Dr. Herbert L. Boyer (1946-1966). He occupied the residence and clinic from 1946 until the early 1970s, and actually saw patients until his death in 1978. Ruby, Dr. Boyer's wife, assisted him in his work, especially with the maternity ward. She stayed in their residence after his death until she passed on in 1987.

Before moving back to Arkansas, where he was a graduate of the University of Arkansas Medical School in 1911, he had practiced in Oklahoma. He recalled, "I was a real horse-and-buggy doctor in those days. We didn't have drug stores, so we dispensed our own drugs from the medicine bag we carried. If you didn't have quinine you might as well not go." This main drug fought malaria and typhoid. Laudanum, paregoric, and iodine were among other common drugs he kept close in his



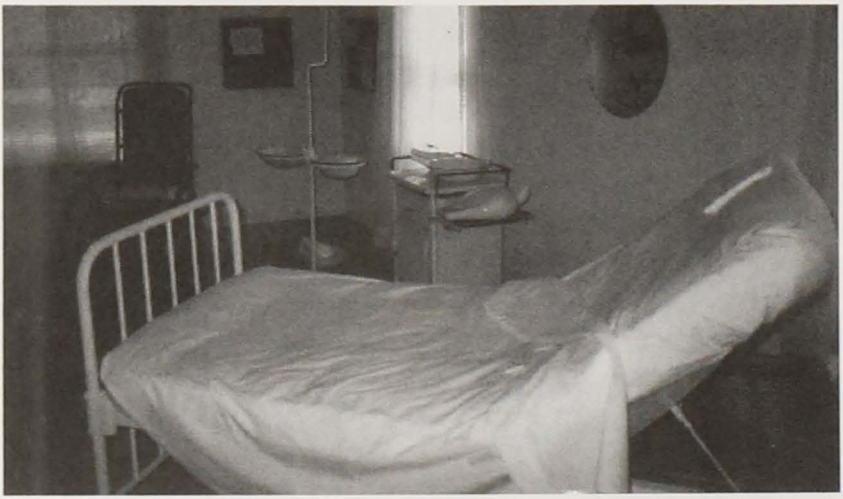
Dr. Boyer's office with his doctor's bag on the floor.

doctor's bag that was always with him.

Hard cash was often difficult to come by, so his clientele paid with fruits, vegetables, home canning, chickens, fowl, smoked meats, nuts, and grains. One time Dr. Boyer agreed to take a calf as payment for a baby delivery. On pick-up date, the animal was very rambunctious, dove at the good doctor and broke Boyer's leg.

On another occasion, when returning from a call, he fell from his horse and suffered a separated shoulder. Stories like these regarding country doctors are legion, and deserve to be recorded—another goal of the museum. Photos of country doctors from our area line the hallway known as The Gallery of Physicians. It is here that more photos and information about these fascinating folks will be added in the future.

Dr. Boyer's clinic became famous as a maternity hospital. More than 400 babies were delivered by Dr. Boyer and wife Ruby. At what bargain prices! For a mere $40 a mother could come to 107 North Starr Avenue, Lincoln, deliver her baby and stay for three days where she recov-



Hospital room in the Arkansas Country Doctor's Museum.

ered, while Dr. Boyer and Ruby kept watchful eyes and ears on mother and baby for their first few critical hours.

Future plans for the building and grounds are innumerable. Collecting of memorabilia goes on apace. Maria Thomason of Lincoln gave a wonderful collection of artifacts used by her uncle, Dr. James A. Robinson (1867-1946). He practiced around the Dutch Mills and Cincinnati area during the 1920s and 1930s. A special showcase displays his instruments and some personal belongings. Many old eyeglasses and dated medicine bottles from Sterling Drug Store of Prairie Grove are on display.

Buggy Routes Recorded on Maps

One of the most recently acquired "gems" is a 1908 book of maps indicating routes the horse-and-buggy doctors used for their rounds throughout northwest Arkansas. Old families' names and their lands are indicated for that period–a great source book for genealogists.

The museum is in possession of a large collection of

letters, pictures, diplomas, etc. of Dr. William Mock of Prairie Grove, a past prominent physician and distinguished citizen from this area.

The University of Arkansas Medical Science Center in Little Rock has given the Arkansas Country Doctor Museum a wheelchair, a remarkably old product in good repair, which is most proudly displayed in one of the hospital rooms. Another antique wheelchair from the Cane Hill area is also on display.

Mrs. Ruby Boyer was an avid collector. We previously mentioned the salt and pepper shakers. She also left a marvelous collection of plates depicting presidential inaugurations, state capital buildings, and famous churches. These have been artfully displayed. The hospital rooms show early methods of treatment with instruments used to accomplish the tasks. Dr. Boyer's office appears as though he has just stepped out to attend a patient in his hospital, or he is readying for a buggy sojourn. Or perhaps he is preparing to answer a call as he promised "All calls answered promptly...day or night, regardless of weather or distance." A local newspaper had that announcement in 1946, when he first took over operations in Lincoln. "I got a pickup truck and just bounced all over these roads," he recalled.

The Arkansas Country Doctor Museum is located at 107 North Starr in Lincoln. From U.S. 62 turn north on Starr, go slightly over two blocks; the museum is just past the Lincoln Methodist Church on the left. Normal hours of operation are Wednesday and Saturday afternoons 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday mornings 9:30-noon; and by appointments (which are welcome), by calling (501) 824-5897.

The museum is staffed by volunteers, so it is best to call ahead if traveling from a distance. Admission is free; contributions are accepted and are tax-deductible.

IN THE SERVICE OF THE USA

Leroy Hunter Hope

by Martha Jane Sawyer

After his induction into the Army Air Corps Nov. 13, 1942, Leroy Hope had ten days at home to pester his younger sisters, Betty Lou Howard (born 7/8/34) and Martha Jane Sawyer (born 12/28/36), before he went to Little Rock to enter into active service on November 23, 1942. It was his first Thanksgiving away from home. He was 19 years old.

He reported to Camp Joseph T. Robinson, where he went through long lines to catch up on these different requirements: shots, uniforms, aptitude and IQ tests. Leroy requested duty with the paratroopers. Those in command said "O.K.," but, of course, the decision makers put a draftee where they thought he was most needed, regardless of his desires. He also received his dog tags at this time. The guy who was giving them out knew Leroy and gave him two sets. He had a $1.00 bill with his belongings, all of which were stolen before he went to bed that night.

Sgt. Leroy Hope

About 2:00 a.m., he and six others were awakened and paraded down to a train. All seven were sent to Keesler Field, Biloxi, Miss., way down on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, for basic training. This training lasted for six days where he learned to march and squeezed off

a shot or two. That was it.

Next, Leroy was shipped out to Lowry Field, Denver, Col., where he didn't stay very long. He was sent to Armament School, a few miles away at Buckley Field, Denver. While going through Armament School he had a tough schedule, eating breakfast at 5:00 a.m. and finishing his day with supper at 10:00 p.m. This routine lasted nine weeks, after which he and some others caught a train for Gunnery School at Las Vegas, Nev. At that time, it was known as Mackearns Field; now it's called Nellis Air Force Base. It took six weeks to go through this final school.

Leroy visited Las Vegas once. The "Strip" was only two blocks long in early 1943. It was his first opportunity to take on the "one-armed bandits" (slot machines), and he had no luck at all. He recalls a famous actor putting on a show, but he doesn't remember who it was—maybe singer? After this, he and 23 other trainees were shipped to the 8th Air Force as replacement gunners. A troop train took them all the way across country to Atlantic City, N.J. Temporarily they were put up in hotels. They were taken to an indoor swimming pool to find out who could swim. Then he had to go out to the rifle range so it was officially put on his record that he had been checked out. He was on the rifle range one day.

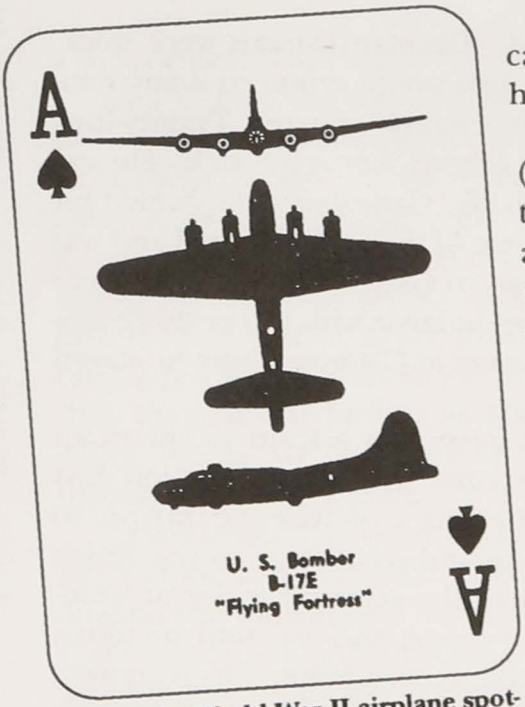
He was shipped by truck to Camp Joyce Kilmer in northern New Jersey, an APO station for the Air Force. After two or three days, he was hauled by bus to the 42nd Street loading dock in New York City and marched about three blocks. There were MPs every 20 feet to keep men from going AWOL. He was loaded down with a barracks bag, an A2 bag, and a parachute with when he staggered up the gang plank to board the Queen Mary.

There were all sorts of service men on that ship–infantry, artillery, air corps, you name them. They sailed

for England, unescorted. German U-boats were thick. By evasive action the Queen would cruise so many minutes one direction, then change course. Twenty-four hours past the Statue of Liberty, Leroy got sick. He was operated on for appendicitis. Gangrene complicated his problem. He spent the rest of the voyage in bed and was unloaded on a dock close to Glasgow, Scotland. There he was put in a military ambulance with two or three others and taken to a dispensary in Glasgow where he stayed about a week.

Leroy's next orders gave him a train ticket to an assignment "pool" in England. He stayed there ten days before he was given orders and transportation to Grafton-Underwood, England, reporting to the 384th Bomb Group. He phoned the sergeant major at headquarters of the 384th to report and was told someone would pick him up. In due time, a military jeep arrived; the ride was a rough experience, even for an ol' country boy! He was registered with a squadron, dumped off at a hutment, assigned a bunk, and left without instructions. He followed the rest of his companions to the mess hall and found chow.

The adjutant general contacted him the next day and told him he would be used as a replacement gunner when one was needed. At this time, there were only 250 American aircraft in England. Some were being worked on, but all that could fly were sent out on whatever missions were called for. The flying personnel always carried a 45-cal. pistol, a carbine, or a Thompson machine gun with them on missions. The men were issued an escape pack that was four inches square by one inch thick. It contained instructions for escape, a map, medicine, a couple of syringes of novocaine, French, Spanish and American money, and a small compass the size of a dime and one-eighth inch thick to indicate directions in



One of the World War II airplane spotter playing cards showing the B-17 bomber like Leroy Hope's crew flew.

case they bailed out and hoped to avoid capture.

The flight engineer (who also operated the top turret) on one of the aircraft quit, along with the tail gunner. No explanation, really. The engineer quit after they hit "prop wash" and dropped a thousand feet. Prop wash is experienced when you get too close to the plane in front of you. The pilot didn't like the tail gunner, so this guy was let go. One of the waist gunners (later a prisoner of war in Germany) took the place of the engineer. Cherokee Bumpers, who came into the service the same time as Leroy, took the place of the waist gunner. Leroy took over the position of tail gunner.

The pilot had a lot of confidence in Leroy's judgment of what the engines were doing. His view from the tail gave him an ideal post from which to observe the engines. If an engine began smoking badly, the pilot would ask Leroy for his judgment of what was happening. His report to the commander was accepted as correct. When an engine looked too bad, the pilot would feather its prop to prevent a runaway. With three engines, they'd attempt a run back to base. The mission would be aborted when this occurred before reaching

the target. Out of England they dumped armed bombs into the North Sea if forced to get rid of them. Missions were flown at an average of 18,000 to 22,000 feet altitude, one time as high as 29,000 feet. Their flight suits were heated and made like an electric blanket; shoes, too, as well as gloves. Everything was covered up to keep from getting frostbite. Gunners had to know what to do to keep their guns from overheating and how to prevent or overcome malfunctions in the extreme cold at altitude. Oxygen masks were worn above 10,000 feet. The demand-type oxygen masks had to be plugged into the main tanks. A small portable bottle type was used anytime a man had to leave his station.

Leroy stayed in the waist of the aircraft until it became airborne. Then he went to his station in the tail. He stayed there until the landing, when he exited through a small door at the back of the bomber. On board the aircraft Leroy used a throat microphone. Its strap went around his neck and a little "deal" on each side of his neck picked up his voice. His voice, he soon discovered, became high-pitched when he was scared.

Before each mission the crew was briefed as to their destination and target. When they returned they were debriefed. Did they observe smoke in the target area? What kind of bomb pattern, heavy flak, enemy action? See any 'chutes emerging from crippled aircraft?

While still in England, a waist gunner on Leroy's plane came down sick, necessitating a replacement. Leroy had fixed the unarmed guns on each side of the waist. Both guns were locked to the inside and pointing toward the tail of the plane. Close by were two boxes of extra ammo. Leroy told the inexperienced guy not to fool with the guns until they were airborne, clear of England. Unfortunately, the green newcomer accidentally fired a gun. A bullet went in one of the ammo

boxes and the other part of the shell pierced the second box. Why this live ammunition didn't go off is still a mystery. The aircrew had to change planes because this plane was terribly damaged. Leroy was left speechless because he was so mad...and so glad to be alive.

After finishing ten missions, the whole crew got a week of rest and recreation (R & R). Leroy decided to visit his Aunt Susan Anderson and her daughter Ethel Anderson, who lived in Scotland. They were expecting him and looking forward to his appearance. He caught a train to Stranraer. It always seemed that Leroy was riding a train by himself about England. From Stranraer he took a bus over to Drumore, on the west coast of Scotland, where the Andersons lived in a huge house, Rosebank, next to a hotel with a bar which the Andersons owned at one time. They sold the commercial property, but kept the house. You could see the Isle of Man from its location. Leroy stayed with his relatives several days and was treated like royalty. He helped them pick wild mushrooms and enjoyed these delicacies. At the end of the week he took a train back to duty. It was the last time he ever saw these kinfolk, but he was very happy he did get to spend some time with them.

The English air crews flew at night and lost many men in the North Sea. Our boys often went out in the daytime on air-sea rescue missions looking for survivors. A man could survive only five to ten minutes in the North Sea's frigid waters.

Once, in November of '43, the 8th Air Force was briefed to have a go at Berlin, Germany. After all the planes got in the air, headquarters learned that Berlin was waiting for them, and the mission was aborted. At the beginning of 1944 General Jimmy Doolittle took over the 8th Air Force. Crews assumed then they were eventually going to Berlin. When Doolittle ordered it,

you went, no matter if the enemy was expecting you or not.

In early '44, three crews, including one on which Leroy served, got transferred to the 15th Air Force in Italy. They went to Prestwick, Scotland and caught a C54 transport (the biggest transport back then, with four engines). They flew out over the Atlantic Ocean so they couldn't be picked up on radar, and landed in Casablanca the next day. They stayed there two days and learned a few things about the people of Casablanca and the Arabs. Then on to Algiers, French Morocco, and stayed a week because the weather penned them in. The temperatures were severely cold at night. Continued on to Foggia, Italy, to join up with the 301st Bomb Group.

After completing 50 missions in Italy, you could return to the States. There were many milk runs (easy missions) with the 15th A.F. In England, you had to complete 25 missions to get "R & R" in the good ol' U.S. of A. The opposition was tough on every mission. They tried to shoot you right out of the sky with planes and/or anti-aircraft. The oil fields in Romania were really bad news. Double credit was awarded for those most rugged missions.

Leroy went out on at least six missions that were aborted, but completed 14. He was severely wounded on his last mission, the 24th day of February '44. A 20mm high explosive shell from a German ME-109 (Messerschmitt), exploded close (six inches) to him. It tore up the armor plate. Pieces, some large, penetrated his left arm at the shoulder, and smaller pieces tore into his left leg. He was knocked six feet up against a partition that had been placed to protect the tail gunner from wind and cold. His life passed in front of his eyes in the time you could snap your fingers. Leroy continued to fire his guns after he was hit. The ball turret operator was the

only one to observe this because the casings from spent shells went out through the bottom of the plane within his view. The pilot flew back over the Alps but left formation, losing altitude so the plane could fly faster.

By radio an ambulance was alerted at their field and awaited the arrival of the stricken ship. As soon as possible, Leroy was taken to a hospital in Bari, Italy (close to Foggia). He received urgent emergency care during which they cut off his clothing, took x-rays, and give him several blood transfusions. He suffered transfusion shock because there was not an efficient way to type blood back then. It was truly touch-and-go for a while. When the doctor came by the first time, his nurses could not stand the smell as Leroy's wounds were exposed, and chose not to stay in the same room. He was given sodium pentothal and operated on to take the shrapnel out of his body. A few pieces were not found. Some foam padding off the metal armor plate was still in his shoulder and prevented the wound from healing. Finally, this hindrance was discovered and removed. To this day he has a big scar, numerous small ones, and numbness in his arm to remind him of his ordeal.

He suffered from "post-traumatic shock syndrome" (not given this name until after the Viet Nam conflict), a nervous reaction with flashbacks, called "just a mental condition" during and after World War II. Leroy received the Purple Heart in the hospital at Bari.

When Bari, Italy, (known as Little Pearl Harbor by the service men) was bombed by the Germans, mustard gas was released and some GIs inhaled it. It burned their lungs. The fact wasn't made known until about forty-nine or fifty years later. The government had opened up certain files and journalists uncovered this in reading these reports. Thus, it became known to the public. You can read all about this in the April 1993

issue of the *DAV Magazine*, page 16. Lots of American boats were sunk in this harbor, but they should not have been there because it was only 15 minutes flying time from a German air base in northern Italy.

Leroy was in the hospital at Bari about 30 days. Then he was brought to a main hospital in Naples and treated there for another month. He was awarded the Silver Star in Naples along with a woman nurse who received a Purple Heart at this same time. They were made to dress up, go out on the front steps, and have their photographs made.

Citation for Award of the Silver Star

> LEROY H. HOPE, 38296718, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, 353rd Bombardment Squadron, 301st Bombardment Group, United States Army. For gallantry in action while participating in aerial flight in the European and Mediterranean Theatre of Operations, as gunner of a B-17 type aircraft. While on a bombing mission over an enemy aircraft factory in northern Austria, on 24 February 1944, his place was repeatedly and persistently attacked by enemy fighters. Sergeant Hope engaged these enemy aircraft for about thirty (30) minutes and at a point approximately ten (10) minutes from the target, two (2) enemy fighters came in, side by side, firing steadily and directly at the tail. A 20 millimeter shell from one (1) of the enemy fighters exploded in Sergeant Hope's tail compartment, seriously wounding him in the left shoulder and arm and severing his oxygen supply line. Sergeant Hope stayed at his guns, firing at the incoming enemy fighter until it was seen to explode in mid-air. With enemy aircraft still attacking, Sergeant Hope, although in a critical condition

occasioned by intense pain, loss of much blood and lack of oxygen, showed tenacity of purpose and personal courage by remaining at his guns and warding off subsequent attacks. Sergeant Hope disregarded his personal welfare and thinking only of the safety of his fellow crew members and his ship, left his post only after his plane had gone over the target, successfully dropped its bombs and was on the way out in comparative safety. Not until then did he accept first aid treatment from his crew members. Such gallantry, unusual resourcefulness and disregard for personal interest, reflects great credit upon Sergeant Hope and the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Residence of enlistment: West Fork, Arkansas.

Leroy was put on a boat, a semi-hospital ship that took him back to the States, to Newport News, Va. He boarded a train with a few other men and went to McCloskey General Hospital in Temple, Tex. He convalesced there and managed a couple of passes allowing him to go home for short leaves.

Leroy's crew left completed 16 missions. Their plane went down on the next mission after Leroy was hit. Four crew members parachuted out. Accompanying aircraft don't know for sure why the plane went down. A direct hit caused a fire, so men started bailing out. There were normally nine crew members to a plane. A crew member who missed the mission because he wasn't needed, came to the hospital to report to Leroy what had happened.

Leroy didn't have a regular pay day until he arrived back in the States. His pay was $98.00 a month. Getting his back pay made him, temporarily, a rich guy. Overseas, he was paid an extra 20% for flight and combat pay.

He was required to fly at least four hours a month to receive the flight pay. Along with the Purple Heart and Silver Star, he was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Medal with two bronze service stars, Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Unit Badge, and two overseas service bars.

The community of West Fork, Ark., Leroy's home town, gave the family a telephone call to him while he was in McCloskey General Hospital. When he managed to come home on leave, the community welcomed him with a party in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. This was such a traumatic and horrifying experience for Leroy that he hasn't been able to tell us his story for nearly 50 years. With this writing to help us, his kin pay tribute to him and what he accomplished: helping to keep us a free nation but, also, assisting to alleviate the suffering of many others at the hands of cruel dictators.

Leroy H. Hope was born Feb. 19, 1922 in Greenland, Ark., the son of Argyle R. and Dorothy (Campbell) Hope. His father, Arglye R., was a lifetime resident of West Fork. Leroy is the grandson of some of the earliest settlers of Washington County—the McGarrrahs, Reeds, and Hopes. He graduated from West Fork High School in 1939 and worked on his dad's farm until he went into the service.

After being released from McClosky General Hospital and recovering from his wounds as much as possible, he was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Oklahoma. After 20 years he retired and moved back to Arkansas. He now lives in Lincoln with his wife, the former Alice Faye Talley. He has four stepchildren: Deana Harvey Gaines, Frank Harvey, Jane Harvey Burkes, and Earnie Harvey. They also have three grandchildren, LeAlan Gaines and Desiree Burks.

Thomas A. Reynolds—Mexican War Veteran and Ophelia A. Kidd Reynolds—His Wife

By Forrest Poorman

A young veteran of the Mexican War, seeking new horizons, arrived in Northwest Arkansas in 1851. In his own statement, he said, "I came to Arkansas, stopping in Fayetteville, and have resided here ever since, except for one year spent in Van Buren County."

Young Thomas A. Reynolds was born in Tennessee 13 April 1825. Little is known of his childhood. Perhaps his family moved to Indiana, for it was there he decided to join up to help his country fight the Mexican War. He enlisted in Bloomfield, Ind., in May 1847, having just turned 22 years of age. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in Co. G., 4th Regiment, Indiana Infantry Volunteers. The commander was Derriel Linderman and the regiment was led by Colonel W. A. Gorman.

Dr. Logan Esarey, author of *History of Indiana* (Vol. 1, 3rd edition, the Hoosier Press, Fort Wayne 1924), wrote on page 507: "April 24 Governor Whitcomb received a request for a fourth regiment. This was organized at Camp Clark June 16 under Willis A. Gorman, and dispatched from New Albany 27 June. They were ordered to Brazos to join General Taylor. September 3 they were at the mouth of the rio Grande on their way to Vera Cruz. September 16 they arrived at Vera Cruz." There is no positive proof that Thomas Reynolds was with this regiment when it was in Mexico. However, the dates make it possible that his Company G was included.

The Mexican War Veteran's organization, the Aztec Club of 1847, Military Society of the Mexican War, was founded by the Army of Occupation 13 October 1848 in Mexico City. The group has continued to be active with

its present office in Bethesda, Maryland, according to J. Conway Hunt, secretary. There is no record that this particular group was active in Northwest Arkansas. Thomas Reynolds and 24 other veterans met in Fayetteville, Ark., to organize an association of Mexican War Veterans in early January 1874. A group at Little Rock had been organized in September 1873. According to John L. Ferguson, State Historian, Arkansas History Commission, the state organization was called the Arkansas Association of Mexican War Veterans.

Thomas A. Reynolds was honorably discharged in Madison, Ind., in July 1848. By 1850 he was a resident of Belleville, St. Claire County, Ill., and on 18 December 1851, he had placed his application for a bounty land claim. The United States Government had passed the Act of Bounty Land for officers and some soldiers of the Mexican War on 28 September 1850. Records do not indicate clearly where his 160 acres were located.

Ophelia Ann Kidd was the eldest child of Tandy K. Kidd and Mary E. Pleasants Kidd. The family had come to Northwest Arkansas from Virginia in late 1840. Tandy had been left a widower in 1847 and had married 19-year-old Nancy Emily Dyer in 1848. By 1850 Ophelia was attending boarding school in Fayetteville. It is assumed she was in that city when she met a young man named Thomas A. Reynolds. He undoubtedly seemed glamorous, a veteran, and an older man! He was 5 feet 8 inches tall, with a fair complexion, gray eyes and dark hair. Ophelia was only 17 years old, so this 28-year-old man must have swept her off her feet. They were married by John Buchanan, minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church 15 July 1852 in Cane Hill.

Tandy Kidd, Ophelia's father was a very wealthy man. He had a prosperous mill in Cane Hill, owned slaves and

farming land and did some freighting. However, his family was growing so there was no room for the newlyweds in his Cane Hill home. So, perhaps they established their first home in Fayetteville. It was there they became lifelong friends with James H. Van Hoose. Mr. Van Hoose, in his reminiscences titled "Fayetteville in 1852," (*Flashback*, Feb.; 1974; p. 5) stated that Thomas was the first daguerrian artist to establish himself in the city. He had done a picture of a young lady for Van Hoose who treasured it. Thomas considered himself an artist when reporting his occupation in the 1860 Arkansas Census.

The Reynolds family began to grow. Jerome was born in 1853 followed by Eugene in 1855, Thomas (Jr.) in 1857 and Nancy in 1858. Undoubtedly the young struggling family needed help. On 1 January 1854, father-in-law Tandy Kidd and Thomas Reynolds signed Articles of Partnership to form the T. K. Kidd Store. In this document, Tandy agreed to build the Reynolds a home in Cane Hill. It was to be theirs as long as the partnership existed. That statement makes one pause to wonder if Tandy had some reservations about his son-in-law or the marriage. It is assumed that the Reynolds family moved to Cane Hill when the home was completed. The Reynolds were enumerated there in the 1860 and 1870 census reports. They acquired land and farming became another source of their income. Thomas clerked in the Kidd Store until December 1861, when he and Tandy had a disagreement. It was in 1861 that their daughter, Johanna, was born.

A disturbing document appeared in the Chancery Court record in February 1862. Ophelia A. Reynolds was filing for divorce. It was her maternal grandfather, Robert L. Pleasants, who appeared in the court with her. According to the record, Thomas failed to respond to

summons so was in default. No action was taken and the case was referred to the next term of the court.

Then tragedy struck the Kidd family. Ophelia's father, Tandy K. Kidd, was killed during an argument with an irate farmer (Joel Perry Parks) over grain prices. This occurred 19 August 1862 in the business section of Boonsboro. It has been suggested that Tandy was on horseback, standing near the large horse watering trough. Some say he was killed instantly and others say he lingered for several days. Perhaps realizing the Kidd family would not be in a financial position to support her and her five children, a reconciliation between Thomas and Ophelia was achieved and the divorce proceedings were dropped.

Because of the War, nothing could be done to settle the Kidd Estate. Tandy's widow finally arranged a public auction of their personal property. This was held on the eighth and ninth of June 1866. Records indicate Thomas A. bought a log chain for $2.25; an iron object for $134.81; two cows for $84.00 and two plows for $7.25. It appears that he intended to remain in Boonsboro and to continue farming. Administrators of the Kidd Estate, Frederick Kidd and David M. Moore, sold Thomas Reynolds acreage in Section 4, Township 15 North; Range 32 West and Section 17, Township 15 North; Range 32 West on 14 December 1867. Reynolds was the highest bidder and E. W. McClelland was his security. In 1872 the administrators told the court no record could be found of this sale. The court accepted new documents and the sale was finalized.

Four years after filing for divorce, Thomas and Ophelia had their sixth child, Lucella. William L. was born in 1870. The 1870 Washington County Census indicated that Reynolds were living in Cane Hill and reported Thomas' occupation as farmer. The last

Reynolds child, Lucius A. was born 1871

On 18 February 1871, Thomas filed a claim for war losses with G. W. M. Reed, who was the Fayetteville Pension and Claim agent after the Civil War. The Reynolds claim was for $1,424 and he was paid $560.00. Ophelia's half-brother, Cornelius H. Kidd, filed an additional claim for the Kidd estate. Proving loyalty to the Union was a requirement for filing.

Dr. Lemke, professor at the University of Arkansas and former editor of *Flashback*, in the May 1959 issue, page 50, suggested valuable historical facts could be obtained by studying abstracts of local property. His home at 231 E. Dickson had been part of the Masonic Addition, patented 20 August 1838. Following the owners and the history of the area through his abstract, he listed Benjamin J. H. Gaines and Sallie J. Gaines as owners of his lot 14 in June 1870. T. A. Reynolds is listed as the next owner along with all the succeeding owners until Lemke bought the lot in 1943. There is no record of when the Reynolds returned to Fayetteville after the Kidd real estate auction in 1873. It was 2 April 1877 that Ophelia A. Reynolds signed the deed for Lot 2 in Block 22 in the Masonic Addition section of Fayetteville from Benjamin Gaines. The lot was a little over an acre and had a frame or box house on the premise. A stream, originating from a spring in Lot 16 across Dickson Street, traversed the length of Lot 2 according to early maps and the deed indicated the owners would have access to the spring water. As a reference point, the present Fayetteville Public Library address is 217 E. Dickson.

The Reynolds decided to sell the 70 acres they had bought from the Tandy K. Kidd Estate. William Rhea, on 11 March 1878, paid $700.00 for the two parcels of land in Section 4 and Section 17, Township 15 North; Range 32 West.

Thomas acknowledged that he was not a farmer, had never worked on one, so undoubtedly the move to Fayetteville was a happy one. He was active in civic affairs and often served on juries. They were able to enjoy their life long friends, James Hayden Van Hoose, Dr. W. B. Welch and Dr. H. D. Wood, James H. Cooper, J. W. Buie, J. L. Duke, George T. Luke, Jimmy Brooks and C. A. Mulholland. Ophelia's aunt, Eudocia Pleasants Crouch, was a widow living nearby, as was her sister-in-law, Mary E. Moore Kidd, who had lost her husband, William M. Kidd. Mary was living with her father W. W. Moore and her four young children. Only Johanna 19, Lucella 14, William 10 and Lucius A. 8, were living with the Reynolds in Fayetteville, according to the 1880 Washington County Census. There is no record of Little Mary or the four older Reynolds boys.

On 18 March 1879 Ophelia and Thomas gave their daughter, Johanna, their land in Section 14, Township 15 North; Range 32 West for $1 and other considerations. It is interesting that on 26 April 1881 Ophelia and Thomas bought the land back from Johanna, paying her $400.00. Johanna was 20 years old and was living at home with her parents. That same year the Reynolds sold this property to G. D. Mitchell and M. L. Marrs for $700.

The Reynolds needed $225 for some unknown purpose. Thomas and Ophelia signed a Trust Deed with T. M. Gunter in April 1877. Their farm in Section 14; Township 15 North, Range 32 West and their home, lot 2 Block 22 were listed as security. Mr. Gunter owned property in Block 22. The Reynolds were able to pay off the trust in December 1881.

In 1887, when it was possible to do so, Thomas began the process of obtaining a pension for his services during the Mexican War. It was his good friends who came

to his aid. James H. Van Hoose served as his attorney; John W. Buie had known Thomas for 36 years and certified for his worthiness. James H. Cooper certified that he had known Thomas for 25 years. They also affirmed that Thomas had been a soldier in the Mexican War and had been a member of the Mexican War Veterans organization in the county since its formation. By April 1887 the Reynolds' claim was on file and the certificate was issued 15 October 1887. He was to receive $8.00 a month.

The *Fayetteville Democrat*, on 25 January 1889, reported that Thomas A. Reynolds had been appointed agent to represent the publishing house of Gay Brothers of New York. His job would be to solicit subscriptions for the publication, *The Light of the Nations*.

Thomas' health began to fail despite the care he received from Dr. Welch and Dr. Wood. The Reynolds' finances began to decline for he could no longer work. The morning of 3 October 1890 Dr. Welch came to the house and knew that his patient was dying. James Van Hoose came later in the day and was present when Thomas drew his last breath. His good friend closed Thomas' eyes and said goodbye for the last time. Ophelia reported in later affidavits that her husband had cancer under the left eye. Daughters Johanna and Lucella, two grandchildren, and son Lucius were living in the home and were dependent on their parents. Lucius could obtain only occasional work.

Immediately after her husband's death, Ophelia began petitioning for a widow's pension. Again her good friends of the past came forward to certify her need. James H. Van Hoose served as her attorney. There is no doubt that the widow was in need. Her petitions indicated that she was penniless. They had not been able to replace the tremendous losses they had suf-

fered during the Civil War. She asked the government to help her bury her veteran husband for she couldn't afford the $47.30 for his burial. Friends had to come to her rescue. Van Hoose wrote petitions for this purpose but there is no record that she received compensation for the funeral. Thomas' grave cannot be located, it is undoubtedly unmarked in the Kidd Cemetery in Cane Hill.

In her numerous petitions, Ophelia claimed she owned about an acre of land and had a small cabin whose roof was in need of repair. The rain was coming into the living quarters. She said she cultivated a few vegetables for family use but had no extras for sale. She had no money and no way to earn any. She reported that her entire possessions would not sell for $300. Dr. Welch and J. L. Duke reported that she would suffer for the necessities of life if her neighbors did not assist her.

Dr. Welch also reported that Ophelia suffered intensely with rheumatism in the right arm and had to have it in a plaster cast for about six months. George Luke, on oath, said she was very poor and in feeble health and had a helpless family to support. He also said that he lived about 300 yards from her fence and that he saw her often. Dr. Welch and Mr. Duke reported that they lived near the Reynolds' cabin, saw her often and had frequently been in her home.

Ophelia Ann Reynolds was awarded a pension of eight dollars a month, beginning with the date of the death of her husband. On the 4th day of February 1893, Ophelia appeared before the clerk of the Circuit Court petitioning for an increase of her pension to twelve dollars. Again good friend James H. Van Hoose acted as her attorney and Jimmy Brooks and C. A.Mulholland witnessed the petition.

Thomas A. Reynolds' name appears on the 1890

Fayetteville Real Estate Tax List—the lot 2 in Block 22 being valued at $100. Ophelia A. Reynolds did pay a personal property tax to the city of Fayetteville 10 April 1893.

The last entry in Thomas Reynolds' pension papers was a notice that Ophelia was being dropped as a pensioner on the 4th of November 1894 for "failure to claim." It was signed by J. T. Wilder, Pension Agent for the U.S. Pension Agency in Knoxville, Tenn.

A deed dated 4 December 1894 indicated Ophelia was residing in Fort Smith, Sebastian County. She sold the family home on Lot 2, Block 22 in Fayetteville, to her children, Lucius, Johnie (Johanna), and Lula (Lucella) Hardyman Wright for $100. A year later the children all living in Sebastian County, mortgaged the property for $200 Mrs. A. Hauptman had the right to sell if the payment was in default.

On 19 October 1895, the Reynolds' children sold Lot 2 Block 22 to William T. Hodges for $325. Two hundred dollars of this was to be paid to Mrs. Hauptman to satisfy the mortgage. The signing of this deed brought to a close another chapter of Tandy Kidd and his descendants in Washington County.

Lucella had married J. D. Hardyman in 1886. In less than five years she was a widow with two small children. The young widow married C. W. Wright and they moved to Crawford County. Lucius had married a young girl named Maggie and in 1900 they and their son John L., 11 months old, were living in Fort Smith. He had become a harness maker and was employed by the W. J. Murphy Company of that city. A daughter, Ophelia Ann, was born in 1902 and died that same year. Lucius was 36 years old when he died June 19808. He and his young daughter are buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Smith. Lucius' mother, Ophelia Ann, died 30 December

1894 in Fort Smith and is buried in Fayetteville.

Ophelia was survived by her step-mother, Nancy E. Kidd, her brothers, Frederick M. Kidd and James H. Kidd, her half-sisters, Margaret Isabelle Shofner, Laura A. McCormick of Prairie Grove and Martha A. Stephens and her aunt, Eudocia Pleasants Crouch of Fayetteville.

This is an account of a man who had the potential and the opportunities to achieve financial stability. He had the association with his wealthy father-in-law, Tandy K. Kidd, and enjoyed the friendship of very successful and influential members of the community. Then why did he and his wife die with so few material assets? Were they never able to overcome their Civil War experiences? Perhaps his strengths lay in his artistic abilities and in his contributions to the community life of Cane Hill and Fayetteville.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Of the 1400 men from the state of Arkansas who volunteered for service in the Mexican War, over 100 were from Washington County. They marched to Mexico via San Antonio, Tex., and saw action in Buena Vista, according to the reference by William S. Campbell in *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville* 1828-1928 pp 43-44. The company of volunteers organized in Washington County for the War with Mexico was mustered into service 15 June 1847 at Fort Smith. Most soldiers were mustered out at Carmargo, Mexico 23 June 1848 (*Flashback*, June 1955).

William R. Latta gave a personal account of recruiting for volunteers to go to Mexico and his experiences from Old Vineyard to the Rio Grande are related on pp 16-23, *Flashback*, September 1956.

John Thomas read an account of a duel between two officers in Mexico in 1848 to Mexican Veterans at the 4th of July Reunion at Prairie Grove in 1893. (*Flashback* pp 23-24 May 1957.) Names of veterans of the War with Mexico for whom Captain Reed filed pension applications will be found p. 7-10;

Flashback, October 1959.

Wythe Walker writing to Dr. Lemke: "Where your house stands (231 E. Dickson) or immediately back of it, was a large vacant lot. Some way or other, there was also a dirt road attached to Dickson Street which ran along the creek, past 'Big Spout Spring' and then through Tin Cup, the colored section. This lot, back of your home, was an area where we played cowboys and Indians. There was a rumor that buried treasure was there. At night grown-ups did dig" p. 29; *Flashback*; October 1966

MEXICAN WAR VETERANS

The Daily Gazette:
Wednesday, January 7, 1874

The Mexican War veterans of the Northwest had a meeting at Fayetteville a few days ago, and adopted the following resolutions:

"Resolve, that we send greetings to all the surviving soldiers of the Mexican War in any part of the United States.

"That while we sorrow for our comrades in arms who have been taken from the walks of life, we are mindful of that merciful providence which has spared us to this day.

"That the soldiers of the Mexican War residing in Northwest Arkansas will meet annually, for twenty years, this meeting be counted the first and that the officers shall be a president, vice-president, recording and corresponding secretary; that a committee of three be selected at the opening of each meeting; that the names of all who attend, the state in which they enlisted, and all deaths shall be recorded.

"That we have an abiding faith in the government of the United States, and believe that it will remunerate those who have stood in its defense, and who have made valuable acquisitions to the territory thereof.

"That our next meeting be held at Prairie Grove, Washington County, on the fourth day of July 1874.

"That the names of all present be enrolled in accordance with the third resolution; that the secretary furnish the Mexican soldiers union at Little Rock, the papers of Fayette-

ville and our senators and representatives in congress with a copy of today's proceedings."

The following persons were present: P. Neal, W. B. Brodie, T. J. Kelly, Wilson Chapman, George M. Cline, J. A. ?Gilbert, Timothy Harvey of Arkansas; J. A. Watson, H. S. Anderson, of Alabama; ?. A. Barney of Tennessee; John Ritchie of Missouri, T. A. Reynolds, VA; Geareharte of Maryland; Harris Gea, P. Lea, Robert Gibson, D. Thompson of Tennessee; Joseph Harris, Theo J. Boles of Louisiana; David H. Ripple of Indiana, J. C. Thomas of Ohio; James Young of Missouri; J. R. Rutherford of East Tennessee and George Rivercombie of Mississippi. (Copied by David Ellis from the newspaper microfilm collection at the UofA Library)

Footnote: I would like to thank Vicki Rounsavall of Fayetteville for her interest, time, and effort in securing valuable information for this account. "The Experiences of the T. A. Reynolds Family During the Civil War" was published in *Flashback*, May 1994, p. 20-27.

Washington County Cemetery Book, Volume 12

A 106-page book, the final volume of this series, has been published by the Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society. Some of the cemeteries included are: Baldwin (Black), Bean at Lincoln (Black), Black Oak #2, Boone #1, Boone #2, Bridger, Bryant-Rutherford-Martin, Cheatham, Choate, Clark #2, Clark Family, Cloer, Confederate, Dripping Springs, Dunkard, Dyer, Hendrickson Grave, Holt, Hutchens, Johnson, Kidd, Low Gap #2, Mayfield, McLeland, McLellan, McGrew, Oak (Black), Parks Corner or Bean, Prairie Grove (update), Reese, Russell, Stone, Sugar Mountain & Summers; Austin in Benton County; Oak Grove & Gaylor in Crawford County; Bettis, Brannon, Crosses Creek, Denny, Point or Bell, Vaughan, Wade & Wesley in Madison County. You can order from the Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 796, Rogers, AR 72757-0796 for $11.00 each.

A University Paper Written During Reconstruction

edited by Lois L. Morris

The following essay was written by a University of Arkansas (Arkansas Industrial University at that time) student during Reconstruction in the South. The writer's first name is lost; however we know his last name was Parks and that he lived in Prairie Grove, Ark. The paper was given to the History Club of the University of Arkansas Training School by Michael Parks in 1960. Michael received the document from her family in Prairie Grove.

Corrections, originally written in pencil on the paper by a professor who was "politically correct" before his time, are in shown in parentheses. The words replaced are lined out.

Untitled Paper

Resistance to Usurpation is not Revolution. This spirit of this remark is just, noble, and patriotic; but we suggest to our contemporary that the action which he foresees as possibly necessary will not be properly speaking a revolution but resistance to usurpation. All the powers not originally delegated to the Federal government are still property of the States, and they have the same right to defend themselves against usurpation and illegal force on the part of Congress that they would have to resist the same sort of oppression on the part of England, or any other foreign power. What the people ought to have done long ago was to have risen up in the might of their wronged and insulted majesty and taught the scoundrels of Congress a lesson which all free people have given tyrants. The loss of liberty of the people are far more sacred things than the necks of tyrants. The loss of the

liberty of one generation, while it relieves the present, is an intolerable curse. If the people of the States are not sheep and dogs, instead of men, the infamous scoundrels and oppressors who now direct the ~~Universal deviltry of Grant's administration~~ (affairs of the nation), last of the generation, will before long meet with a doom which will serve as a healthy example in this country for a hundred years to come. It is simply a question of the manhood and pluck of the people. How long could ~~Grant's administration~~ (the present state of affairs) last if the generation of men who established this government were here now? ~~Not long enough for Grant to whistle his dog, or drink his glass of whiskey.~~(It would not last one year.) ~~The brutal thieves of Congress~~ (Men who have been robbing the country) would be sent to the "realms of Pluto" so quick that Satan himself would be surprised at their coming. If the present generation has lost every drop of blood of their forefathers, the days of Congress and all its cursed tyrannies are numbered. And this word doom will not be revolution, but precisely resistance to one of the most infernal revolutions ever hatched in the brains of despots. It will be vindication of the honor of our fathers. Who that revers the name of Washington does not blush to contemplate the venality and cowardice into which even the public men of the present generation seem to have sunken. How can we, without blush, read the tribute of England's noble lord, Byron, to our own Washington? But now behold this "land of Washington" soaking and putrefying in "guilty glory" and so full of despicable "hate" that it is a by-word of the nation! Blessed shall be the memory of those who nobly and patriotically strive to free the "land of Washington" from the disgrace it now lies under.

The Legend of "Granny Fraley"

by Dwain and Betty (Anderson) Skelton

I had a discussion with my father before he passed away. As we talked, he mentioned his "Granny Fraley" and I didn't get a chance to probe deeper about who she was and where she came from. After his funeral I asked some of my older brothers and sisters to tell me about "Granny Fraley" and found to my surprise they knew nothing concrete about her but had a number of legends to pass on. Since then we have been chasing the "Legend of Granny Fraley."

Granny Fraley was Rebecca Reed

"Granny Fraley" was born, in Arkansas on December 22, 1844, as Rebecca Reed, the youngest of eight to ten children. Some time around 1835 her parents, James and Alcy (Ferguson) Reed and her grandfather, Benjamin Reed, and several of their relatives came to Washington County, Ark. They came from an area around Cow Creek on the Licking River in Floyd County (later named Morgan and then Magoffin County), Kentucky. Benjamin, Alcy, and James are all thought to be buried in unmarked graves in the the Reed/Brown Cemetery at Hazel Valley, Ark.

Benjamin Reed was taxed in Washington County, Ark., in 1837 but was not enumerated in the 1840 census. Court records show James Reed acting as the administrator of his estate in 1837. There is no indication he brought a wife with him from Kentucky. No land records have been found that would positively locate his residence during those years.

We aren't yet sure who Benjamin's father was. Some researchers think it was James Reed who came to America in 1728 from Ulster, Northern Ireland. This the-

ory comes from "The Reed Line," taken from a book, *Kith and Kin*, by Mrs John Russel Sampson. One of that James Reed's sons was named Benjamin.

Others believe Benjamin's father was a James Reed who settled in Perquimans County, N.C. and migrated to Floyd County, Ky. by way of Montgomery County, Va.

The 1840 Washington County census shows James Reed, himself between 40 and 50 years of age, with a wife between 40 and 50, six sons and three daughters.

The 1850 census for White River Township, Washington County shows James Reed, 45; Ailcy (Ferguson) Reed 45; Harvey Reed, 15; Jane Reed, 13; James Reed, 11; Mason Reed, 9; and Rebecca Reed, 7. William F., Daniel, and Lewis Reed all had married by the time the next census was taken, in early November, and were enumerated under other households.

First Married Stufflebeam, Union Soldier

Rebecca Reed was first married on 26 August 1860 to William Asbury Stufflebeam who was born in Kentucky in 1836. Jehu S. Murrin performed that ceremony in the home of Lewis Reed of Valley Township, Madison County, Ark. Lewis was more than likely Rebecca's older brother. Her father, James Reed, had passed away in 1855 and her mother, Alcy Reed, was unable to keep a large family together so the children were placed with relatives. Alcy lived with her son, Harvey Reed and his wife Sarah. Rebecca was staying with Lewis and Isabella Reed when the 1860 census was taken.

On 7 January 1863, William Asbury Stufflebeam enlisted, at Fayetteville, Ark., into "I" Company, 1st Arkansas Cavalry of the Union army. A daughter, Perlina Jane Stufflebeam was born to Rebecca and Asbury Stufflebeam on 26 January 1863. He died 27 days later of typhoid fever (inflammation of the lungs).

He very possibly never saw his daughter, Perlina Jane.

On 5 August 186S, Rebecca filed for a Civil War widow's pension, claim #106,603, and added a minor's pension application, #117,672, on 25 January 1868. The initial widow's pension application was not concluded because she remarried before it could be finalized.

Second Marriage to Nathaniel Dickason

On 7 January 1867, near Van Buren, Ark., George Peters, a Justice of the Peace for Crawford County, Ark., joined Rebecca Stufflebeam and Nathaniel Dickason in marriage. Nathaniel also fought in the Civil War. Records show him in "B" Company, 32nd Arkansas Infantry Regiment, a Confederate unit. It appears, a daughter, named Alcy Dickerson, was born to Rebecca and Nathaniel and she later married Henry Mason and they lived around Ft. Smith, Ark. Nathaniel Dickerson had a son, possibly by a previous marriage, and/or also possibly by Rebecca, named Reuben Richard Dickerson (later known as Dick Fraley).

On 28 October 1867, Nathaniel Dickinson was appointed as guardian for Perlina Jane Stufflebeam. On 18 August 1868 he began drawing $8 a month pension from the Federal Government on her behalf (Certificate #156,957). Nathaniel Dickerson died violently on 30 September 1869. It is generally thought he was killed by his brothers because of his Civil War sympathies.

On 6 Nov 1869, Rebecca Dickinson was appointed guardian for Perlina Stufflebeam and the pension was raised to $10.

Third Marriage to Samuel Friley (Fraley)

On 10 June 1870, Daniel Blevins, a minister of the Regular Baptist Church of Christ, joined in marriage, Samuel Friley, age 43, and Rebecca Dickson, age 26.

(Wash. Co. Marriage Records C 598). To that union was born William (Billy) Fraley (date unknown), Thomas Eli Fraley on 17 August 1875, Nancy Fraley on March 1878, and Emmaline Fraley on 9 January 1881.

Samuel Fraley had at least two children by a previous marriage. That marriage took place on 22 March 1846. His first wife's name was Rachel Henson (Wash. Co. Marriage Records A-29). The children were John, Mary Jane, and possibly Lavinia. Somewhere along about that time Samuel Fraley Jr. was born. We can't yet identify his mother with any certainty.

On 25 January 1879 the minor's pension for Perlina Jane Stufflebeam ended. She turned 16 and was no longer considered a minor.

On 18 April 1880, Perlina Jane Stufflebeam, age 17, married Jonathan Robert Skelton, age 20, and one of their sons was Henry Eli Skelton.

On 26 March 1884, Rebecca Stufflebeam, age 39, married, for the second time, Sam Fraley, age 56. P.P. (Uncle Peck) Bogen, a Justice of the Peace from Hazel Valley performed the ceremony (Wash. Co. Marriage Records H-124). George Washington Fraley was born on 14 Sept 1884 and Shirlda (some called her Sylvia) Fraley in 1889. On that same day, 26 March 1884, P. P. Bogen married Reuben R. (Dick) Fraley, age 18, and Miss Louisa Winkle, age 18.

Samuel Fraley died on 17 August 1896 and is buried in the Hazel Valley Cemetery.

On 4 June 1904, Rebecca Fraley, through her attorney in Washington, D.C., Charles C. Tucker, refiled for a widow's pension and received certif. #584,739. Initially it was for $12 a month. By 1916, it was up to $20.

On 17 November 1917 the pension was withdrawn when the Government discovered she had been remarried more than once. Somehow she got it reinstated and

was drawing $50 a month at the end of 1926.

The pension file based on the military service of William Asbury Stufflebeam, held at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., provided most of this information.

Rebecca died on 26 January 1927. She is buried in the Hazel Valley Cemetery.

Perhaps you may have noticed the family names get spelled several ways. Neither Rebecca nor Nathaniel could read or write so their names were spelled phonetically by the ones doing their writing for them. The Stufflebeam name was ended with an "n" in most cases but ended with an "m" for military and census uses. The Fraley name was also spelled Friley on several legal papers dealing with Rebecca's pension applications. Before her death, however, she did learn to sign her name with my uncle, John Skelton, holding her hand and guiding her through the signature.

Was Sam Fraley in Gold Rush?

Legend has it, Samuel Fraley made the Colorado Gold Rush, around Leadville, Colo., and brought home a sack of nuggets and gold dust which he buried by the rail fence on his place. He ultimately owned the lions share of section 30, township 14 N, range 28 W. He ran cattle on the place.

Legend also has it, "Granny Fraley" had a nephew named Nathaniel Reed who operated across the South for eight years as the outlaw "Texas Jack." His exploits are documented in his autobiography, *The Life of Texas Jack - 8 Years a Criminal - 41 Years Trusting in God.* Nathaniel Reed was born near St. Paul, Madison County, Ark. on 23 March, 1862. His father was Rebecca's brother, Mason H. Reed, who died of wounds and typhoid fever on 6 June 1864 while serving in "A" Company, 13th

Kansas Infantry (Union). He is buried in the National Cemetery at Ft. Smith. His mother was Sarah (Prater) Reed, the daughter of Elijah and Jemima (Patrick) Prater. Nathaniel "Texas Jack" Reed died 7 Jan. 1950, in Tulsa, Okla., and is buried in the Brashears Cemetery near St. Paul, Madison County, Ark. He died of natural causes but his body contained fourteen old bullet wounds (*Tulsa World*, January 1950).

Affidavits in William Asbury Stufflebeam's Civil War pension file in the National Archives show Rebecca's birth date as 22 Dec 1844, her marriage to William Asbury Stufflebeam as 26 August 1860, her marriage to Nathaniel Dickerson as 7 January 1867, and her first marriage to Sam Fraley as 17 June 1870. They also attest to Sam Fraley's death on 17 August 1896.

There is no mention in the National Archives file of Rebecca's second marriage to Sam Fraley on 24 March 1884. It is, however, recorded in Washington County Marriage Record C-598. In the Washington County Chancery Court Records, Book E, Page 21, dated Monday, 14 January 1884, Samuel Fraley was granted a divorce from Rachel Fraley, alias Rachel Pascal, on the grounds she wilfully abandoned and deserted him and married one (John) Pascal. That marriage took place on 29 August 1861 and is recorded in Washington County Marriage Record B-318.

Legend has it, Samuel Fraley hired a Cherokee Indian to guard his cattle for him while he went off to the Colorado Gold Rush (1860-1863?). While he was gone, his wife, Rachel, possibly thinking him dead and not returning, married the fellow guarding the cattle. That man, John Paschal, appears to be from a Cherokee Indian family of North Carolina (see the Oklahoma Roll of the Cherokee Indians for 1851-52 and the 1870 Arkansas census for White River Township).

Richard Reuben Dickerson, AKA: Richard R. Fraley, and Uncle Dick Fraley, may well have been the son of Nathaniel Dickerson by a former wife. He also may have been the son of Nathaniel and Rebecca, but if so, he was born just before they were legally married in 1867.

Some researchers think Rebecca gave all her children and stepchildren the Fraley name whether they were legally adopted or not. Perlina Jane would have kept her name as Stufflebeam until her pension ended when she became 16.

Alcy Dickerson appears to be the daughter of Nathaniel and Rebecca. Since Rebecca Reed's mother's name was Alcy, the girl was probably named Alcy Brunetta Dickerson and she chose to use only Alcy after she grew up. Shrilda Fraley is believed to have married a man named Potts.

The 1900 Arkansas Census for Washington County, Reed Township, shows the following:

Family # 200;	Frayley, Rebecca	58	AR	TN	KY
	" , George	14	AR	KY	AR
	" , Shrilda	11	AR	KY	AR
Family # 202;	Fraley, Thomas	25	AR	KY	AR
	" , Leorana	26	KY	KY	KY
	" , Roy C.	3	AR	AR	KY
	" , Ray	1	AR	AR	KY

The 1910 Arkansas Census for Washington County, Reed Township, shows:

Family #48;	Skelton, Jonathan R.	49
	" , Perlina J.	(47)
	" , Eli	23
	" , John	20
	" , Harmon	18
	" , Julia	15
	" , Lula	13
	" , Walter	11
	" , Altie	10
	Fraley, Rebecca	66

Rebecca (Reed) Stufflebeam, Dickerson, Fraley lived thirty years after her last husband died and spent her days visiting with her family, smoking her clay pipe, and spinning yarns. Those stories have become legends and have kept her many descendants amused for almost a century now.

Did Granny Help the James Gang?

One of those yet-to-be-substantiated stories indicates "Granny Fraley" provided sanctuary to Jesse James and his fellow merrymakers as they moved from their home in Northwest Missouri down the Middle Fork of the White River to locations in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas where they carried out their activities. A man named James "Jim" Reed rode with the James Gang. It is remotely possible he was related to Rebecca. If so, it would lend credence to her story.

Among those amused by the legends of "Granny Fraley" are her great grandson, Dwain and his wife, Betty (Anderson) Skelton, of Easton, Kans., the researchers of this piece.

QUERIES

Ben Reynolds, 522 Oakdale, Longview, TX 75602 is interesting in corresponding with others researching the names of BENBROOK, MAGUIRE, or SCHULTZ in Washington County.

Peggy Rogers, 3055 Loxley, Fayetteville, AR 72703 needs parent's name and siblings' names of JAMES GARRISON (born 1856, Washington City, Ohio), who came to Madison County, Ark., about 1882 and his wife CASSIE HANEY (born 1859, Monroe City, Ohio). They had a son, Ellis, born 1881 in Virginia.

Pioneer Party Leaves Area for California in 1849

(from the April 16, 1885, *Fayetteville Weekly Democrat*)

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

April 15, 1885

EDITOR DEMOCRAT: April 15th., 1849, just 36 years ago to-day, quite a number of our citizens left this town overland for the then far away land of California. This was the pioneer party from this portion of Arkansas and was composed of some of the best citizens of Northwest Arkansas.

Lewis Evans, first sheriff of Washington county, was elected captain.

Peter Mankins was one of the lieutenants. I regret that I am not able to give names of all the party of adventurous spirits who abandoned the comforts of home life and turned their faces toward the setting sun and began the long, tedious journey across an unknown country in search of a land where bright golden vision rose up before them.

I give from memory the names of a few of that party:

Lewis Evans, Capt.; Peter Mankins, Lieut.; Judge Hiram Davis, Ed Freyschlag, Herman Freyschlag and two unmarried sisters, S. B. Marrs, father of Mayor Marrs; James Devin, father of the cashier of the W. C. Bank; H. J. McRoy, of Fayetteville; Burt Sanders, of Huntsville; Geo. W. Sanders, Allen Waite, of Madison county; Geo. Lewis, John Lewis, Nathan Lewis, James P. Dickerson, Nathan Thorp, Jacob Strickland, of White River; Nathan Cosby, father of Mrs. Rudolph, Capt. Geo. North, of Fayetteville, and my father, John Van Hoose, who was 57 years old, and walked all the way to Feather River, California, arriving there in October following, being nearly six months on the way.

Nathan Thorp died on the route and was buried near

where Denver City now stands. Nathan Cosby died about the time they reached the journey's end. Nathan Lewis died soon after. All the others of the above named party lived to return to their homes except the Misses Freyschlag, who remained in California and made it their future homes.

Those who yet survive as far as I know are: Peter Mankins, S. B. Marrs, H. J. McRoy, George Lewis, Burt Sanders, George W. Sanders, James Devin, Ed Freyschlag.

All the rest of the above named party have been gathered home to the land of their fathers and we, their sons, on this 36th anniversary of their exodus from Fayetteville take this method of paying tribute to their memory.

We well remember that it snowed all day the 15th. of April, the day the ox wagons came in town from the Middle Fork of the White River, which was very unusual and that, to me, gloomy day, impressed itself upon my young mind, so that 36 years have failed to obliterate the memory of it.

J. H. VANHOOSE.

NOTE.—Since handing you the above list of names of those who left here 36 years ago for California I have obtained the following additional names:

Rankin Pyeatt, of Cane Hill; Uncle Billy Crawford, Andy Edminston, J. T. Edminston, Dee Cunningham, Cal Holmes, Mathew Deane, Christian Freyschlag, John Whom, Henry Freyschlag, William Shores, Hiram Shores, Nat Collins, Henry Prescott, Big Jim Crawford, James Irvin, Old Man Avard, Uncle Jim McCulloch, of Boonsboro; Dr. McCulloch; Isaac Spencer, Joseph Chew.

Rankin Pyeatt invented a machine which he attached to a wagon wheel and by which he measured the distance between here and California.

Col. Wm. Penn Adair, of the Cherokee Nation, joined the party in the Nation and went through with them.

—V. H.

Route Is Now "The Cherokee Trail"

Dr. Jack E. Fletcher of Sequim, Wash., has done extensive research on the trail described above. He has authored a book, *The Cherokee Trail,* and written an article in *Overland Trail* (Vol. 13, No. 2) titled "The Cherokee Trail" that documents the trail's history and route. In the Overland Trail article, he begins by saying, "In the spring of 1849 members of the Cherokee nation joined forces with a group of whites, most of whom came from Washington County, Arkansas, to form the "Washington County Emmigrating Company. Their point of rendezvous was Saline, Oklahoma."

Much of the information in Fletcher's work on The Cherokee Trail came from the May, 1973 issue of *Flashback* which contained the text of the letters written by John Rankin Pyeatt, a Washington County native who made the trip. (See newspaper article by VanHoose above.)

Fletcher has this advice for people researching letters or diaries of emigrants or cattle drovers going west to California, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, or Utah. If they mention the following key words or locations, they were probably on the Cherokee Trail. (However, that name was not used until years afterward.): Verdigris-Arkansas, Fort Bent, Pueblo, Fountain Creek, Pikes Peak, Cherry Creek, future or present Denver, South Platte River; Fort(s) St. Vrain, Vasquez, Lupton; Cache La Poudre, Laramie, Laramie plains, Laramie River (not Fort Laramie); North Platte crossing, and North Park.

Dr. Fletcher is working to get the National Park Service to designate The Cherokee Trail a branch of the California Trail so it will have National Trail Status.

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QUERY

Mary Jane (Harding) Draeger, 315 Douglas Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186 says that her query in the May 1995 *Flashback* was incorrect. DAVID FRANKLIN ALEXANDER, her grandfather, was born 31 Oct. 1864 in Decatur Co., Ind., and died 30 Oct. 1835 in Potwin, Kans., and is buried a little SW of Fayetteville, Ark. He lived at Sunset or Dump, Ark., and also Fayetteville from 1897-1918 where his wife ROSE ELIZABETH (SIMPSON) died.

David had three brothers: (1) HENRY CLAYTON ALEXANDER who may have been killed while working on railroad around Mulberry; (2) CHARLES W. ALEXANDER who lived in Winslow in early 1900s and died in Little Rock; (3) ISAAC ALEXANDER. David had at least two sisters. One sister may have been ELIZABETH, married to a JOHN W. BLACKWELL.

Would like to hear from any descendants of DAVID FRANKLIN ALEXANDER or his siblings .

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